

Kachemak Nordic Ski Club Board Meeting
Nov 2nd 2016 6:30pm Cook Inlet Keeper Building

Attending: Mike Gracz, Secretary; Jan Spurkland, President, Richard Burton, Treasurer; Annie Ridgely, Administrative assistant; Nicky Szarzi, Vice President, John Miles, groomer; Stacey Buckelew, Board Member; Carlin Rauch, Board Member; Caleb Rauch, student intern.

Meeting begins at 6:36

Glenn Seaman arrives 6:44

DB arrives 6:48

Alan Parks at 6:54

Approval of Agenda (add mention of “Ranger Brad” of Kachemak Bay State Park to talk at next meeting about putting up a yurt at Eveline Rec area) Motion by MG 2nd by NS, approved. Non-board attendees introduced: John Miles, Alan Parks, Caleb Rauch

2. Approval of BOD meeting minutes

Motion: Approval of draft minutes from Oct 5th, 2016 by MG 2nd by RB, passes
Google Drive tutorial next meeting

3. Admin Report – Annie Ridgely’s first meeting as admin assistant!

3.1 Flyers and membership forms mailed out to 700 people, at least 80 or so came back due to incorrect address. FaceBook page for annual meeting viewed by 900 people. Mailchimp notice was sent out, but it should be changed so that the address the message is sent from is KNSC@gmail and not mailchimp, maybe this is not possible? Newspapers have ads, KBBI has a PSA, maybe we should pay for an ad there. Memberships are rolling in, especially from Homer Women’s Nordic. The Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage (NSAA) has our current member list, however members will need to contact them directly (online is possible) to request paper a version of The Alaska Nordic Skier newsletter.

We have an unpaid invoice \$250 from NSAA, not sure what for. Richard will handle it.

AR Spent about 3hrs marketing, 6 hrs in meetings & training, 7 hours mailing, 2 hours on membership, and 1 hour on email. She mentioned hearing that several folks were upset that our annual meeting conflicted with the Pratt Museum’s Ritz event.

Discussion ensue about how this happened, some members do not remember a conflict in the past and our annual meeting date has always been the first Saturday of November, but the Pratt claims the date for the Ritz has not changed either. GS mentions that it is something to consider, because some want to attend both events.

Donations for annual meeting were briefly discussed.

AR: will be at the annual meeting at the front desk- entering memberships into the database and encouraging folks to volunteer for categories, and providing them with volunteer job descriptions.

She and SB report problems with membership + HWN registration. RB will look into it.

4. Website Report - Richard

4.1 Online database and membership database need to be combined.

Messy relationship between new and old site- tough to delete old site because there are references to files like images, race results, and meeting minutes on the old site that require a lot of tedious work to transfer to the new site and update the URL refs. MG & CR will start to chip away at those tasks.

5. Treasure's Report - RB

5.1 2017 Budget Report

Budget was \$2000 over balance. MG moves to remove line number 6401 "other equipment purchase from budget"- 2nd by NS passes. (this was for trail cams and GPS trackers).

Depreciation not figured in 9-30-16 balance sheet- once it is added it will change the \$9400 surplus to a loss.

6. Events

Annual Meeting

RB & AR will handle membership registration at the door

NS is handling the Auction

Four candidates for three seats on the Board of Directors: Jasmine Mauer, Christine Anderson, Jason Neely; MG will make ballots

Presentations:

NS + JS will prepare a powerpoint presentation emphasizing volunteer appreciation

RB will make a financial report;

MG will describe the new trail cams and GPS trackers that we approved (below)

GS will announce and recruit for volunteer positions

Alan Parks (HS coach) + one boy and one girl from the high school ski team will introduce themselves

Around 20 HS ski team members will be there, two of them will give a short talk

GS- inquires about the possibility of having a youth board of directors member?

JS- favorably received will discuss.

Who will bring which items was discussed –desserts, utensils, tickets, ballots....

BoD members should arrive at the Elks Lodge by about 5

DB indicated that at least one donor wanted a minimum bid on auction items. We should emphasize that this really shouldn't be a way to get cheap stuff, Ideally for everyone it should be members purchasing something they would buy anyway, at the normal price, and add a little extra money in order to raise money for the club without taking away from the generosity of local businesses.

JM suggests inviting and honoring local ski heros Dave Schorr + Larry Martin...

9. New Business-

The Homer Foundation Grant for purchase of Trail Cams + GPS Grooming Trackers was denied funding because it was deemed: "not...necessary for the on-going success of KNSC operations". The purchase was discussed in two parts, the Trail Cams and annual service agreement costs, and the GPS trackers and annual costs. DB moves to approve the trail cam purchase- JS asks how would we pay for them?- NS seconds the motion and favors purchase from savings. RB- feels ok about funding the equipment from savings but not the ongoing service fees, although a one time trial purchase of the service agreements from savings seemed OK. - JS- approves of spending 1017 from savings to buy cams [note: this was actually the amount for the GPS trackers, however the actual amount for the trail cams was \$946.05- MG 3 November 2016] then put \$150 for the service agreements into the budget- no further discussion, no opposition- the motion passes.

The GPS trackers were discussed next. The annual cost of the GPS trackers is around ~\$1500. \$339 each for the tracking service and \$499 for the web map hosting service. Discussion ensues about how these work- they are hard wired into our primary grooming machines; the three tracked ATVs (by the generous offer from Bruce Hess, of Puffin Electric, to do the wiring). They start automatically when the machine is turned on and they report when the ATVs are grooming within a certain, relatively wide, buffer distance from the mapped trail system. They use cell towers for communication. The tracks are displayed in real time at a website used by many ski areas across North America (skitrails.info). There is some concern about incurring a reasonably high annual cost, and perhaps the membership would be willing to pay a little extra for the service. However, all board members seemed happy to try it for one year. SB emphasizes that the membership should be surveyed about the utility of the trackers, and we should make a presentation to the members at the annual meeting, which MG agrees to do.

MG moves to buy 3 GPS trackers from savings as a one-year pilot project 2nd by NS....passes.

9.2 – Committee chair job description

JS- reports that GS made a job description for the equipment committee chairperson by working with the current chairs, Dave & Molly Brann. This may be the most difficult position(s) to fill.

GS reported that Dave Brann will not be conducting the annual grooming clinic. The equipment committee chair was really a 2-person job- Molly did a lot of the typing etc. while Dave focused on communication and coordination, and wondered if we could recruit two folks for the job? GS also pointed out that to avoid burn-out it should ideally be someone focused on only the chairperson responsibilities, and not someone who also performs trail maintenance and grooming. Dave & Molly never got much feedback from the board about their reports, and felt that either the board needs to provide this or nix the monthly reporting. There is no updated equipment list, although RB indicates that he has one. Dave & Molly will work with the new chairpeople/person. They have a lot of help at each area- especially from the lead groomers at each system, and Bill Hague and Robert Archibald help a lot with maintenance. Dave and Molly felt that the volunteer checklist and waiver is important, primarily for liability issues. They have also noted that kids sometimes have been observed using club machines outside of club grooming. There was no Spring equipment committee meeting, therefore there are no equipment purchase or maintenance recommendations to date.

Discussion ensues. Can we streamline the position to make it less daunting? Perhaps when recruiting the recruiter should not lead with the extensive list of job duties, but have a distilled generalized list of a few primary responsibilities, and mention that there is documentation of what has been done before.

We agree to speak with likely candidates that may be willing to take on these responsibilities at the annual meeting. CR will create a trifold for the Annual Meeting that includes some a call for a volunteer equipment committee chair. If no one steps forward the BoD will at least need to call an equipment committee meeting, ideally sometime in December.

DB leaves 8:11

JS mentions that sometimes these types of positions may need to “go to zero” before someone recognizes the need and steps up to fill it.

9.3 Sunset Parking

JS met with Bob Cicciarella of the volunteer Fire Department about the parking agreement at the Diamond Ridge station. Mr. Cicciarella wishes to maintain the same parking arrangement, and it will perhaps include more parking spaces, because the tank and Connexes will move. CR will talk to () Anderson across the road about maintaining the same agreement we had with him last year for overflow parking in exchange for plowing.

Ranger Brad would like to present next meeting about setting up a yurt at Eveline...

10. Comments from the audience on any thing

11. Comments from the BOD

SB- wonders about mowing status. Reports that everything appears to be ready for snow!

AR- is glad to be working with the club! Baby due DEC 12TH

GS- apologies for missing last meetings

NS- thanks, this is my last meeting. Feels confident that KNSC is in good hands.

CR- last meeting too-

JS- Need volunteer action photos for presentation at annual meeting!- A photo of the board sporting false mustaches was taken.

Adjourned at 8:20

Next Meeting: Dec. 7th, 2016 6:30pm Cook Inlet Keeper Building